

# COUNCIL ANNETTE ISLANDS RESERVE

## METLAKATLA INDIAN COMMUNITY

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JUDITH A. EATON, SECRETARY  
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January 19, 2007  
ESTABLISHED 1887

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Via Fax and First Class Mail

Philip Hogen, Chairman  
Chuck Choney, Commissioner  
National Indian Gaming Commission  
1441 L St., N.W., Suite 9100  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: Comments on on Technical Standards (71 Fed. Reg. 46,336 (August 11, 2006)).

Dear Chairman Hogen and Commissioner Choney:

The Metlakatla Indian Community has been extremely encouraged by your support for the work currently being conducted by the Tribal Advisory Committee on revisions to the NIGC's proposed Technical Standards, and we write to express our continued support for this critically important process. For the first time, tribes, manufacturers and the NIGC have been able to work together to find common ground and create strong, robust standards for Class II gaming that preserve game integrity while protecting tribal operations and tribal assets. This uniquely cooperative approach has been extremely productive, but it needs time to bear fruit.

As was discussed at the last Tribal Advisory Committee ("TAC") meeting in Washington, D.C., it was our understanding that the TAC would be allowed to complete its work on the Technical Standards before the NIGC took up any of the other proposed regulations currently under consideration. This understanding was reached because of the strong likelihood that a good set of Technical Standards will on their own be sufficient to draw the "bright line" between Class II and Class III games that the NIGC seeks to address. The Community has therefore supported the TAC's work in good faith on the Technical Standards based on the understanding that if that work is successful, there would not be a need for the NIGC's proposed Classification Standards and Facsimile Definition.

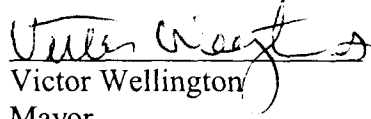
We believe this to be the case, and hope that the NIGC will grant the TAC the time it needs to continue its work on the Technical Standards in the week to come before reaching any conclusion on the need for the other proposed regulations. We believe the TAC is close to achieving its goal, and that it will be able to provide the NIGC with a Technical Standard that achieves everything the NIGC originally sought to accomplish with three standards.

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NATIONAL INDIAN GAMING  
COMMISSION

The trust and goodwill that has been generated by the mutual understanding regarding this process is welcome in Indian country, and we hope that it be allowed to continue to flourish and grow.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Victor Wellington", written over a horizontal line.

Victor Wellington  
Mayor  
Metlakatla Indian Community

cc: Joseph Valandra  
Michael Gross